Pam- India 1002

Calls from the Foreign Field

INDIA

The Mass Movement
The Moga Building Fund

THE MASS MOVEMENT.

The great problem facing the Missions in India centers around the establishment and maintenance of the Native Christian Church.

Sixty million people in India—one-fifth of the whole population—are born **"out-caste,"** or, as the Hindus call them, **"untouchable."**

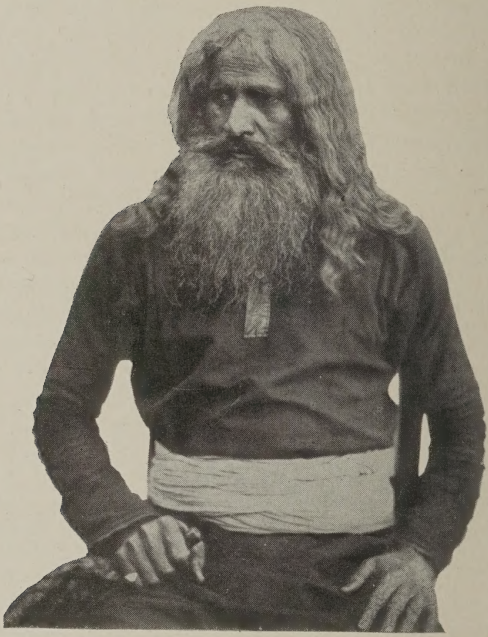
Fixed at the bottom, socially and economically, with apparently no way out, the only hope they have ever had has come through Christianity, and it may also be said that in them lies the great hope of Christianity. It is from among these people that the larger number of Christian converts come, and there also that the Mass Movements favorable to Christianity crystallize. Three million of the sixty are now called Christian, and it is estimated that there will be thirty million in another generation. Within the bounds of the Punjab Mission of the Presbyterian Church there are now 20,000 Christians from this class, more than half of them having come within the last five years. In ten years at the present rate of increase there will be 80,000.

Whole families and villages are turning en masse to Christianity and asking for Baptism and admission to the Church, and from all three India Missions reports come that with cumulative power this Mass Movement is developing. Joy in seeing this

great company at the door of the Church is tempered by the two great problems that present themselves:

(1) WHO SHALL TEND THESE SHEPHERDLESS SHEEP?

(2) HOW SHALL THEY, AND ESPECIALLY THE CHILDREN, BE TRAINED IN CHRISTIAN NURTURE?



ONE OF THE UNTOUCHABLES

THE NEED.

In the Punjab and North India Missions at least 7,500 boys and girls for whom they are responsible are without any school privileges, and the very success of the work adds new thousands each year.

United effort is being made to have every baptized adult trained in Christian knowledge so that he may be fitted to receive the Communion within six months after baptism and to have a Communion Service in each district at least once each year—a well-nigh impossible task. The high spiritual value of participating in this rite is so well recognized at home that the loss of it to these simple, untrained souls reaching for the light is most pathetic. "Truly the harvest is plenteous, but the laborers are few—Pray ye therefore"—Can we honestly pray when we fail to partially answer the prayer ourselves, with opportunity pressing as it does?

THE POSSIBILITY.

Mr. Sherwood Eddy's recent remarkable experience in India was partly reaping from others' sowing, and partly a demonstration of what is possible at any time with proper leadership; able, earnest, consecrated and in sufficient numbers. Adequate Christian leadership is essential. Here is the recognized weakness of the work in the face of all this overwhelming opportunity that may pass at any time, "How

GROUP OF LOW-CASTE CHRISTIANS

shall they hear without a preacher, and how shall they preach except they be sent?"

There is large significance in the words of a placard prepared by the American Marathi Mission, adjoining the Presbyterian, which is hung in prominent positions in buildings and houses:

EVERY MEMBER.

1. Truly converted.
2. Filled with the Spirit.
3. Studying the Bible.
4. Strong in faith.
5. Prompted by love.
6. Zealous in service.

THE GOSPEL PREACHED.

1. By every Christian.
2. To every non-Christian.
3. At all times.
4. In all places.

Is our standard at home as high as this?

MOGA BUILDING FUND.

As a direct contribution to the solution of the problems growing out of the Mass Movement the plans made by the Punjab Mission at Moga demand attention.

The villages, where these humble Christians who have flocked in multitudes to the Church live, must be provided with teachers and preachers. The people are farm

LOW-CASTE VILLAGE SCHOOL

hands practically bound to the cultivators for whom they work. They are impoverished. Their average wage does not exceed three dollars a month; and that is the total family income. They are illiterate. They live in surroundings unspeakably wretched, both morally and physically. Practically all will remain villagers permanently engaged in their old occupations.

The problem of the Church is to help them in the place where they are; to make

their community life clean, wholesome and Christian. To that end, in every village with a Christian community of sufficient numbers, there ought to be established a school for its boys and girls. There are now in the Punjab Mission alone 1,000 villages in which there are Christians, and there are schools in less than 100 of these villages. The Mission is trying to meet the situation through the Training School for Village Teachers at Moga, where ninety students are now enrolled, preparing to become village teachers and religious leaders in their communities.

Moga is a market town, strategically located in the center of a large farming district, and a wide area is daily represented in its market place.

To meet the present need, to say nothing of that ten years hence, there ought to be three hundred students in preparation, yet the ninety who are there now are crowded into dormitories built to accommodate seventy. To house the present number and allow for an increase, more building equipment is immediately needed.

A still greater need. In order that the training may be in terms of village life, it is necessary to introduce a course in agriculture, so that the knowledge of the simplest modern methods of farming may form part of the equipment of the students when they enter on their work as village teachers.

The present village school system does not meet the village needs, and there is no enthusiasm for an education that is purely academic. From the parents' viewpoint the time spent in school is wasted unless it brings some return. A course in farming will catch their imagination and they will send their children if there is profit in it, and a school of practical value to the villager will furnish the best point of contact to promote his religious welfare.

The Moga School, if properly equipped, must become a most important factor in the building up of a strong church in the villages of the Punjab. Through its graduates, both as pastors and teachers, it will

LOW-CASTE PREACHERS

give an education suited to the needs of the villages that will improve their condition spiritually and economically and help powerfully toward the establishment of a church independent of foreign support.

IMMEDIATE NEEDS.

To meet the needs of the next five years an equipment for the education of 300 students should be provided.

The immediate needs will be covered by approximately $25,000, to be expended as follows:

SCHOOL BUILDINGS.

Three dormitories	$4,000
Dining Hall and Store House	1,500
Carpenter Shop	500
Blacksmith Shop	500
Repair Shop	500
Servants' Quarters	1,200

FARM EQUIPMENT.

50 Acres of land	$8,300
Stable and Granary	2,000
Bull and Calf Pens	300
Six Wells	2,000
Six Well Wheels	800
Two Bullock Carts	100
Ten Oxen	1,000
Ten Cows	700
Machinery, plows, harrows, drills, etc.	1,600
	$25,000

This offers unusual opportunities to help with a number of comparatively small gifts that will guarantee some of these features. Some thrifty Presbyterian farmers or congregations located in agricultural districts might well supply one or more features of the equipment or erect one of the needed buildings and then watch the school in its progress and rejoice in the advance made by this needy people, and their own share in it all will prove a great blessing.

Who could ask for a more fascinating opportunity to take advantage of a strategic time and place? He who contributes here will have the knowledge that he is helping to build the foundation of the independent Indian church, a work which parallels in the twentieth century the work of the Apostles in the first century.

"CALLS FROM THE FOREIGN FIELD"

The Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.

DATE 191

To assist in the effort to advance and develop the Foreign Mission Work of the Presbyterian Church, I agree to give toward INDIA, as indicated below, in addition to my regular gifts for Foreign Missions and the other Boards of the Church, the sum of

$ ..... *Payable* .....

Signature ..... *Address* .....

Member of ..... *Church of* .....

NOTE — Pledges and gifts should be sent direct to DWIGHT H. DAY, Treas., 156 Fifth Ave., New York City, who will credit such gifts, if desired, to the church indicated.

☐ India Mass Movement.

☐ Moga Building Fund.

The Board of Foreign Missions
of the
Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.
156 Fifth Avenue, New York

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